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TRANSMITTAL MESSAGE/COVER SHEET

Date: May 1, 2003

PLEASE DELIVER THE FOLLOWING PAGES TO:

ATTN: Examiner Clara I. Yang

Company/Firm: USPTO - Group 2635

Fax No.: 703.872.9314

Pages: 7 (including this sheet)

Re: U.S. Serial No. 09/600,335
Attorney Docket: 951/48953

From: Jeffrey D. Sanok

Firm: Crowell & Moring, LLP
Intellectual Property Dept.

Fax No.: (202) 628-8844

MESSAGE: Faxed herewith is a Draft Reply for the interview scheduled for today at 10:00 a.m. Thank you.

THIS MESSAGE IS INTENDED FOR THE USE OF THE INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY TO WHICH IT IS ADDRESSED AND MAY CONTAIN INFORMATION THAT IT IS PRIVILEGED, CONFIDENTIAL AND EXEMPT FROM DISCLOSURE UNDER APPLICABLE LAW. IF THE READER OF THIS MESSAGE IS NOT THE INTENDED RECIPIENT OR THE EMPLOYEE OR AGENT RESPONSIBLE FOR DELIVERING THE MESSAGE TO THE INTENDED RECIPIENT, YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT ANY DISSEMINATION, DISTRIBUTION, OR COPYING OF THIS COMMUNICATION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED. IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS COMMUNICATION IN ERROR, PLEASE NOTIFY US IMMEDIATELY BY TELEPHONE (COLLECT), AND RETURN THE ORIGINAL MESSAGE TO US AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS VIA U.S. POSTAL SERVICE. THANK YOU.

Attorney Docket: 951/48958
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: MICHAEL KOBLBAUER
Serial No.: 09/600,335 Group Art Unit: 2635
Filed: SEPTEMBER 14, 2000 Examiner: CLARA I. YANG
Title: METHOD FOR OPERATING A VEHICLE, AND A DEVICE
FOR CARRYING OUT SAID METHOD

DRAFT REPLY

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in response to the Office Action dated December 18, 2002.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 17 and 18 as follows:

(A copy of the marked-up version of the amended claims are attached to this Reply).

17. (Amended) The method according to claim 15, wherein if an interrogation is unsuccessful after the start of the operation of the vehicle drive unit, the method mechanically unlocks a memory fixed in the control unit of the vehicle to provide an access authorization code.